

USDOT Changed Submission Deadlines for Overall Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Goals

OLYMPIA – The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued a Final Rule changing how often WSDOT is required to submit Overall DBE Goals to USDOT Operating Administrations. Under the old regulation, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) was required to submit Overall DBE Goals to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) annually. WSDOT will now be required to submit Overall DBE Goals once every three years to FTA, FAA, and FHWA.

A DBE goal represents a percentage of the value of work for which socially and economically disadvantaged business enterprises should participate in a federally funded transportation project for three Federal Fiscal Years (FFY). Goals are established in an effort to create a “level playing field” for certified DBEs seeking to participate in WSDOT’s federally assisted highway and transit-related projects.

WSDOT will be required to submit Overall DBE Goals as follows:

- The next FTA Overall DBE Goal is due August 1, 2010 and is effective October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013. WSDOT will be seeking comments on this goal.
- The next FHWA Overall DBE Goal is due August 1, 2011 and is effective October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014. The present FHWA Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Overall Annual DBE Goal, of 15.52% of FHWA financially-assisted projects, remains in effect through September 30, 2011.
- The next FAA Overall DBE Goal is due August 1, 2011 and is effective October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2014. The present FAA FFY 2010 Overall Annual DBE Goal, 8.8% of FAA financially-assisted projects, remains in effect through September 30, 2011.

For more information, please contact WSDOT, Office of Equal Opportunity at toll-free 1-888-259-9143 or e-mail dbess@wsdot.wa.gov.

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